

Improving the quality of health care, strengthening institutional capacity and improving the quality and quantity of health human resources are priorities of the Ministry of Health's 2012-2018 and beyond Strategic Plan. However, these objectives will be difficult to reach because of the limited number of academic experts, the lack of advanced internship services, the inadequacy of curricula to technological developments, the lack of infrastructure, the incomplete training of specialist doctors and nurses and paramedics. In particular, there is no training in minimally invasive surgery. The surgical offer is therefore limited, the cost of care is high, the need for medical evacuation is increasing, the waiting list for cases requiring elective surgery is increasing, and the morbidity and lethality rate high.

Rwanda and most sub-Saharan countries suffer from an insufficient number of specialist doctors. Health authorities in Rwanda have become aware of the need to modernize surgery. Thus, the development of a center of expertise in minimally invasive surgery appears as a way to strengthen both the health system and to position the country as a reference player in the sub-region in the field of medical training.

The main expected results are (i) the creation of a Fellowship training program including the application of minimally invasive surgery techniques on the non-human model and clinical training targeting pathologies of public health concern, (ii) the investigation of the socio-anthropological and economic impact of the introduction of minimally invasive surgery in the Rwandan health system, (iii) support for the UR academic human resources, and (iv) the creation and animation of a scientific society and the granting to the ministry of health of the tools allowing to better valorize minimally invasive surgery in Rwanda.

Thank you for choosing the University of Rwanda (UR)

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